

INDRAJAL COMICS

No. 242

BAHUBALI

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FUN WITH GEMS

HOW MANY 3-SIDED SHAPES CAN YOU FIND? e.g. △.

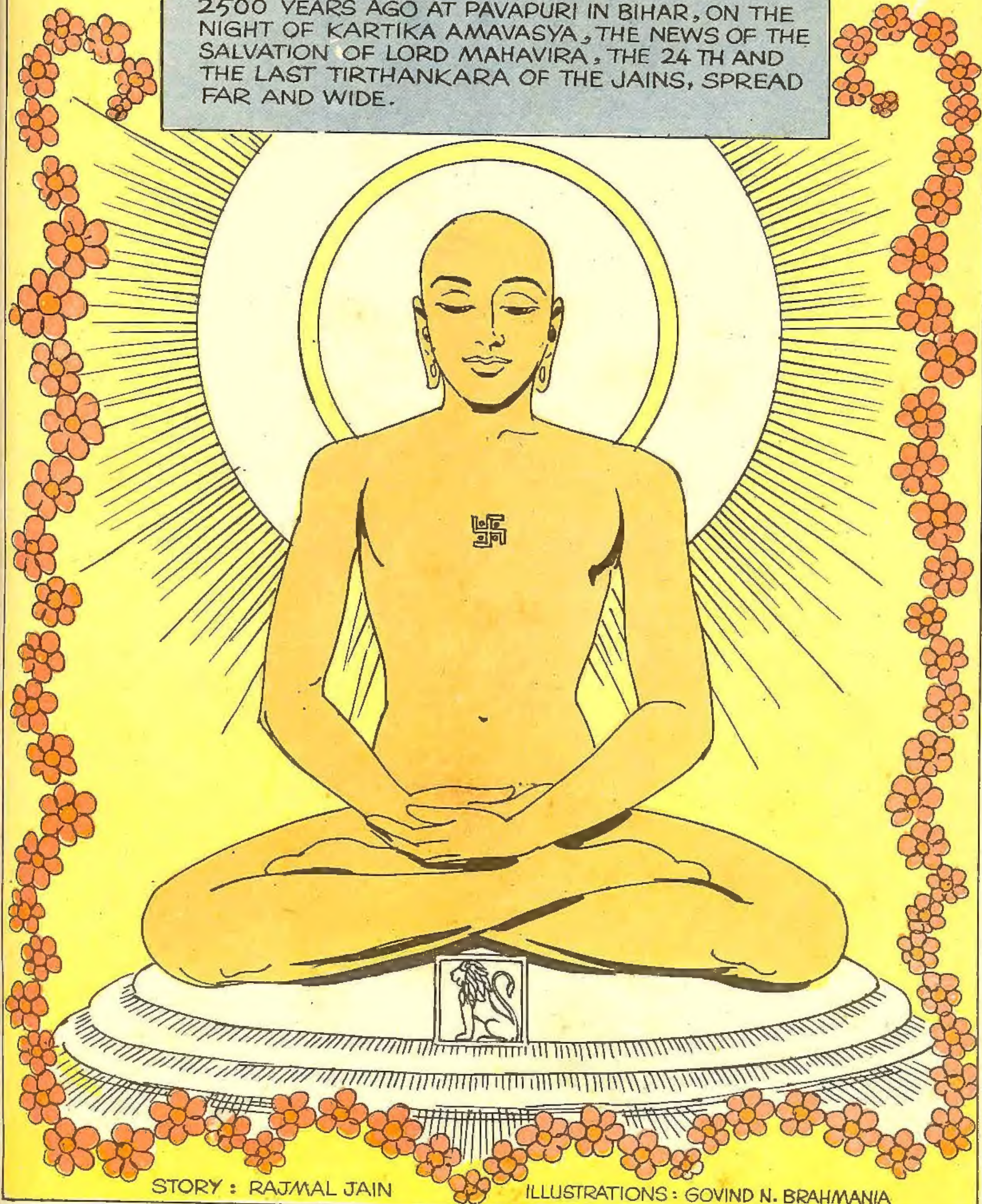


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C-322

BAHUBALI



STORY : RAJMAL JAIN

ILLUSTRATIONS : GOVIND N. BRAHMANIA

LORD MAHAVIRA DEDICATED HIS ENTIRE LIFE FOR THE HUMAN WELFARE — HIS FOLLOWERS HAD INFINITE FAITH IN HIM.



EVEN TODAY, THE FESTIVAL OF THE NIRVANA OF LORD MAHAVIRA IS CELEBRATED IN THE FORM OF DEEPAVALI.



IN THE TRADITION OF THE JAIN TIRTHANKARAS, THERE WERE 23 TIRTHANKARAS PRECEDING MAHAVIRA. THE 23 RD WAS PARSHVANATHA ... AND THE FIRST TIRTHANKARA WAS LORD RISHABHADEVA, ALSO KNOWN AS ADINATHA.







NABHIRAJ, THE FATHER OF RISHABHADEVA, LIVED IN A MAGNIFICENT PALACE IN AYODHYA. HE BROUGHT UP RISHABHADEVA WITH GREAT LOVE, AND GOT HIM MARRIED WITH POMP AND CEREMONY.



RISHABHADEVA MADE HIS ELDER SON, BHARAT, PROFICIENT IN SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND ADMINISTRATION. THE OTHER SON, BAHUBALI, LEARNED ARCHERY.



ONE DAY IT SO HAPPENED THAT RISHABHADEVA GOT DISILLUSIONED WITH HIS REGAL SPLENDOUR. HE RENOUNCED THE WORLD AND BECAME A MUNI.



BEFORE RENOUNCING THE WORLD, RISHABHADEVA DIVIDED HIS KINGDOM AMONGST HIS SONS. BHARAT WAS GIVEN THE KINGDOM OF AYODHYA AND BAHUBALI WAS MADE THE KING OF PODANPUR.




BUT BHARAT WAS NOT SATISFIED. HE HAD A BURNING DESIRE TO BECOME THE SOVEREIGN KING. AND ONE DAY, HE GOT THE AUSPICIOUS NEWS.


OH LORD! A CHAKRA HAS COME INTO BEING IN YOUR ARMOURY, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT.
GENERAL, STATE CLEARLY WHAT YOU MEAN?

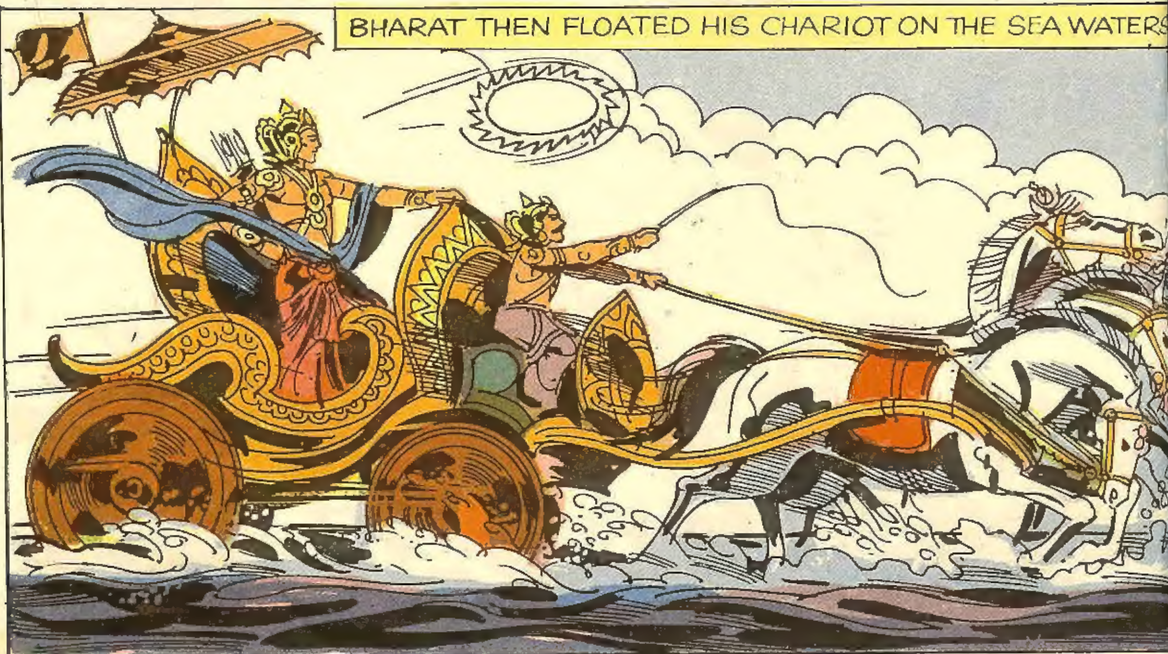

YOUR MAJESTY, A CHAKRA IS THE SIGN OF TRIUMPH. THIS CHAKRA EXPECTS FROM YOU THE VICTORY OF THE UNIVERSE.
OH, WE UNDERSTAND. TOMORROW ITSELF OUR ARMY WILL MARCH TO GAIN VICTORY OVER THE ENTIRE EARTH.

EARLY NEXT MORNING, KING BHARAT'S HUGE ARMY WAS ARRANGED IN COLUMNS.

AT BHARAT'S ARRIVAL, THE ARMY MARCHED FORWARD SPEARHEADED BY THE CHAKRA.


GENERAL, FIRST WE SHALL ADVANCE TOWARDS EAST AND CROSS THE GANGES.
YES, MY LORD.


THE PETTY KINGS EN ROUTE, THINKING THAT THEIR DEFEAT WAS CERTAIN, SURRENDERED AND PRESENTED PRECIOUS GIFTS.


BHARAT THEN FLOATED HIS CHARIOT ON THE SEA WATERS

TRAVELLING 12 YOJANAS, BHARAT SHOT AN ARROW INSCRIBED WITH HIS NAME. IT FELL ON THE ABODE OF MAGADHADEVA, LORD OF LAVANDWEEP.





NOW THE FORCES ADVANCED TOWARDS SOUTH AND CONQUERED THE REGIONS FROM KALINGA TO KERALA. IN THE WEST, HAVING CROSSED THE VINDHYA MOUNTAINS AND THE NARMADA RIVER, BHARAT'S ARMY VANQUISHED ALL THE KINGS UP TO THE GIRNAR MOUNTAIN IN SAURASHTRA. THESE KINGS OFFERED SPLENDID GIFTS TO BHARAT.



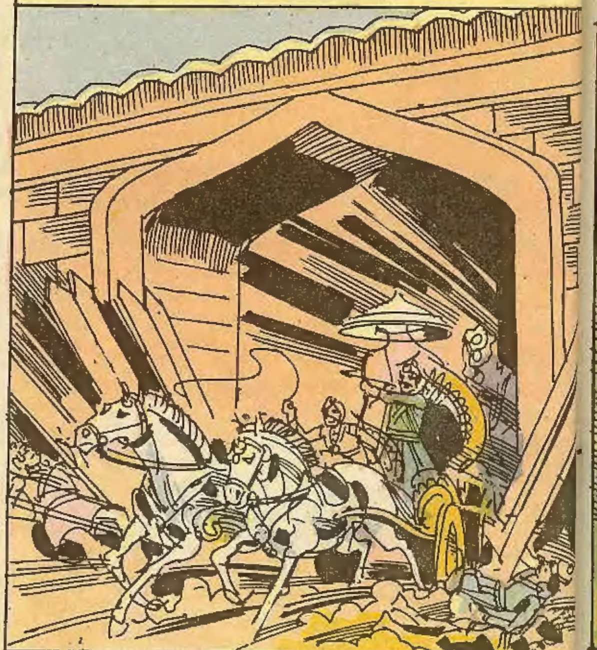
THEN CROSSING THE INDUS, BHARAT MARCHED TOWARDS THE VIJAYARDHA MOUNTAIN — THE GENERAL VANQUISHED THE DEMON WHO RULED THIS REGION.

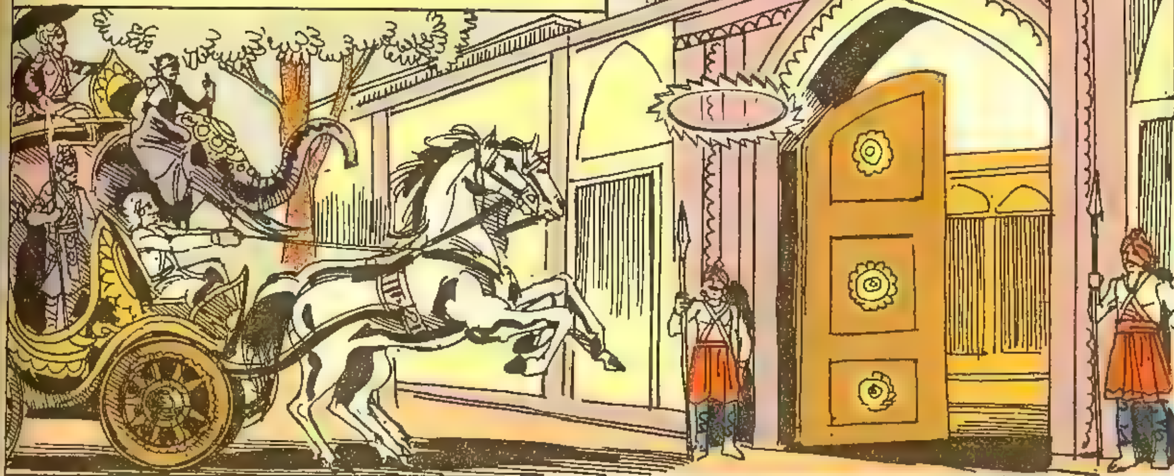


BHARAT SUBJUGATED THE NON-ARYAN KINGS OF CHILAT AND AVARTA TOO.



NEXT, HE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL, THE HIMAVANA MOUNTAIN REGION AND ITS RULERS WERE SUBDUED.




AFTER THE VICTORY, WHEN BHARAT RETURNED TO AYODHYA , THE CHAKRA STOPPED AT THE MAIN CITY GATE.


PANICKING, ALL CRIED IN UNISON : " WHAT HAS HAPPENED ? "


WHEN THIS NEWS WAS CONVEYED TO BHARAT, HE SUMMONED THE PRIEST.
OH THE LEARNED ONE, PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY THIS CHAKRA HAS STOPPED.
YOUR MAJESTY, IT SEEMS THE CONQUEST IS NOT COMPLETE.

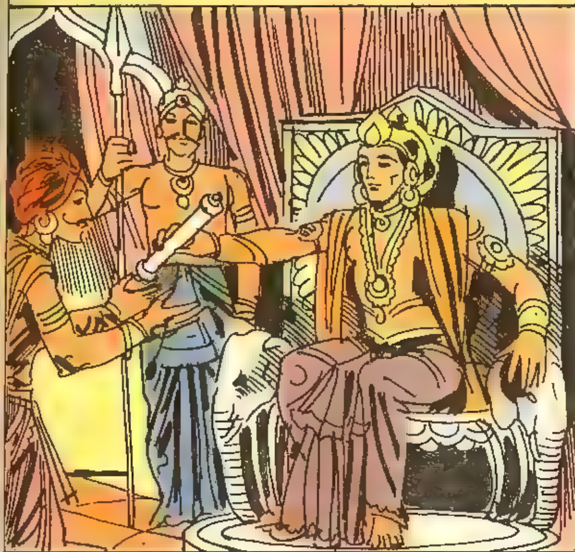




FURIOUS, BHARAT THEN SENT FOR HIS MINISTER AND BADE HIM.



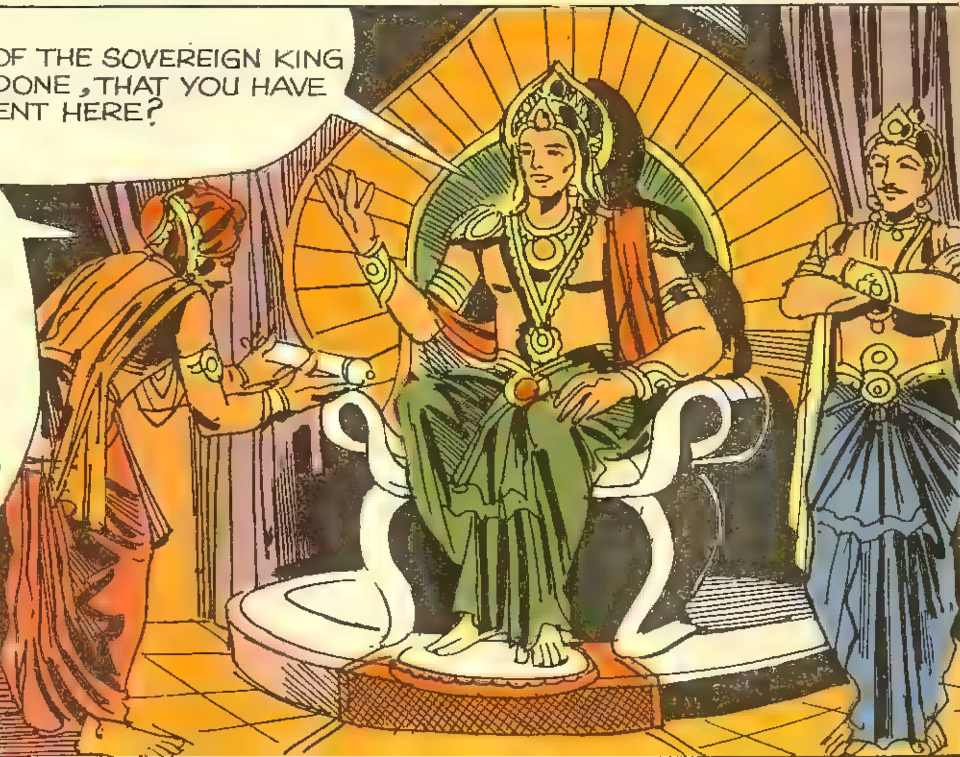
BHARAT'S BROTHERS WELCOMED THE EMISSARIES AND CONVEYED : "CERTAINLY BHARAT IS OUR REVERED ONE BUT OUR KINGDOMS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY OUR FATHER, RISHABHA-DEVA. WE SHALL DO AS HE BIDS."



ALL THE PRINCES WENT TO THEIR FATHER, MUNI RISHABHADEVA, ON MOUNT KAILASH AND IMPLORED.



BHARAT'S BROTHERS GAVE UP THEIR KINGDOMS. BUT ONE OF HIS YOUNGER BROTHERS, BAHUBALI, THE KING OF PODANPUR, ASKED BHARAT'S EMISSARY —



HE DESIRES THAT YOU TOO SUBMIT.

AND IF I DON'T, THEN WHAT IS HIS MESSAGE ?

WHOEVER DISOBEYS BHARAT IS BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL BY THE POWER OF THE CHAKRA.

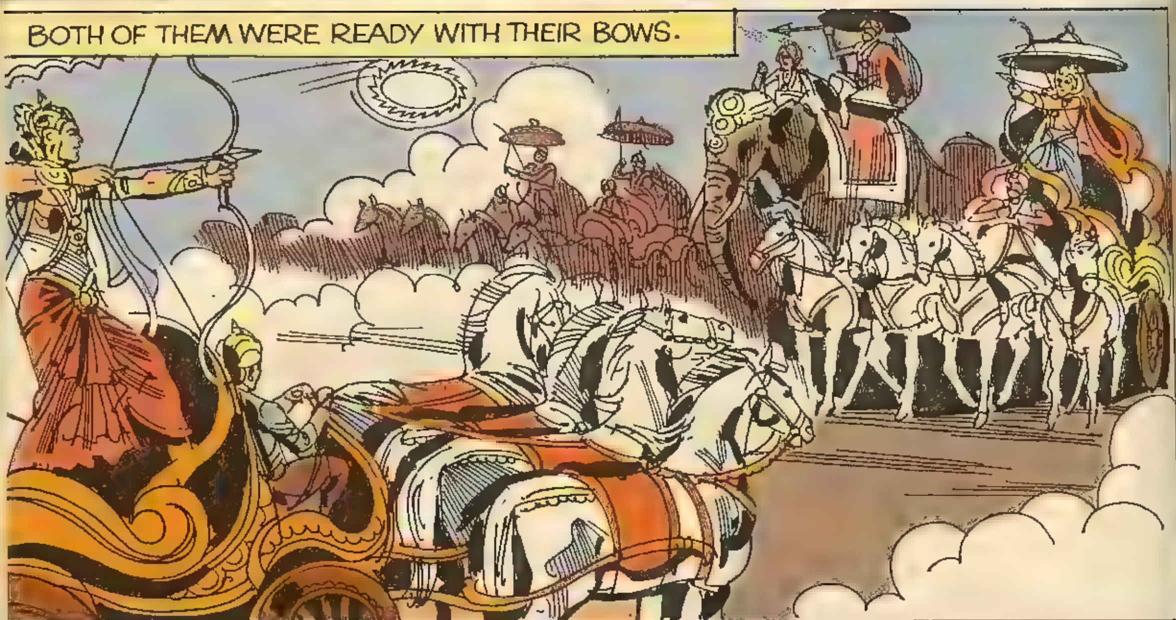
WHAT SORT OF SALUTATION TO A BROTHER WHO CARRIES A SWORD IN HIS HAND TO SNATCH THE KINGDOM GIVEN BY THE FATHER. GO TELL HIM THAT HE CANNOT BECOME THE SOVEREIGN KING WITHOUT DEFEATING ME IN THE BATTLEFIELD.

LORD, YOU ARE WISE. AMITY AMONGST BROTHERS LEADS TO PROSPERITY.

YOU HAVE CONVEYED THE MESSAGE WELL. BUT I SMELL ARROGANCE IN BHARAT'S WORDS. GO AND CONVEY MY FINAL WORDS.

SOON THE TWO FORCES STOOD FACING EACH OTHER NEAR PODANPUR.

BAHUBALI HAD ARRIVED EARLIER IN THE BATTLEFIELD. BHARAT TOO CAME WITH THE CHAKRA.





THE MINISTERS OF BOTH SIDES WERE ALSO PRESENT. ONE OF THEM SHOUTED.




THE MASTERS AGREED. THE MINISTERS OF BOTH SIDES ASSEMBLED FOR DISCUSSIONS.
WELL, THIS WAR IS NOT MOTIVATED TO REMOVE ANY INJUSTICE.


YOU ARE RIGHT. WHY SHOULD THE BLOOD OF OTHERS BE SHED JUST TO DETERMINE WHICH OF THE TWO BROTHERS IS A BETTER WARRIOR?


THE THIRD MINISTER OPINED –
INSTEAD OF A WAR, THE STRENGTH OF BOTH THE BROTHERS CAN BE GAUGED BY SOME OTHER METHODS TOO.


THE FOURTH MINISTER ADVISED –
IT WOULD BE BEST IF THE ARMIES DO NOT COMBAT. ONLY THE TWO BROTHERS SHOULD FIGHT.

THE FIFTH MINISTER CARRIED THIS IDEA FURTHER THUS :



THE SIXTH MINISTER SAID.



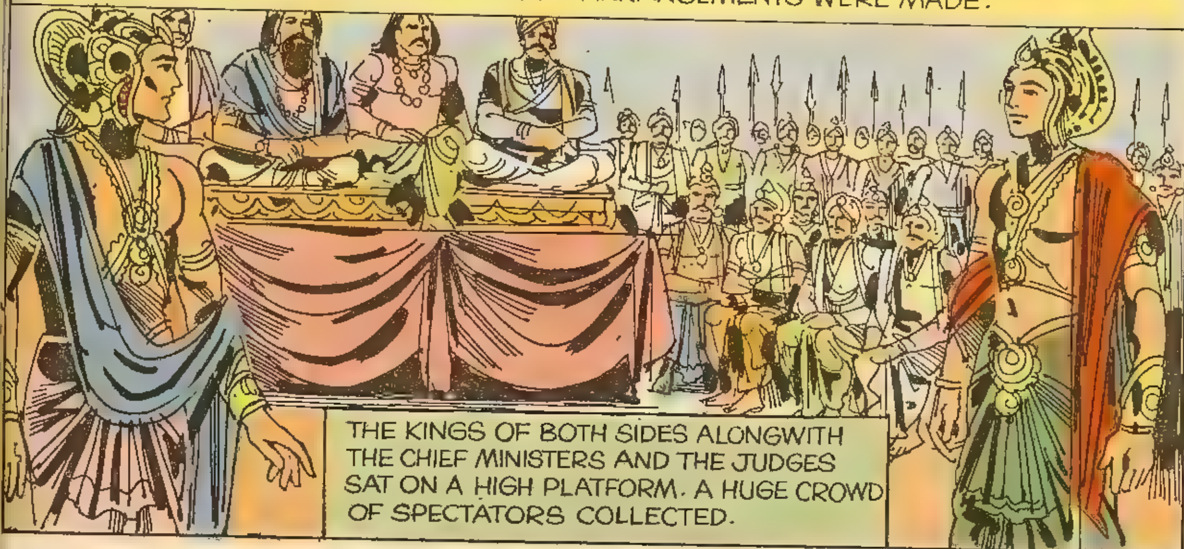
THE KINGS OF BOTH SIDES AND ALL THE MINISTERS SAID IN UNISON —

WE ALL AGREE. NOW THERE WILL BE A WAR OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

HEARING THIS PROPOSAL, BAHUBALI SMILED AND SAID —

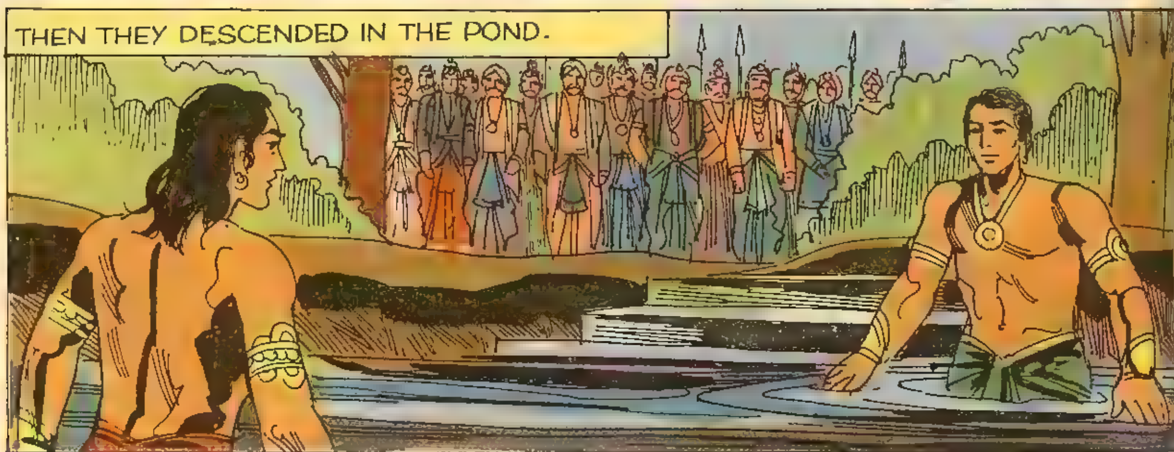
LET BHARAT AGREE TO THIS FIRST.





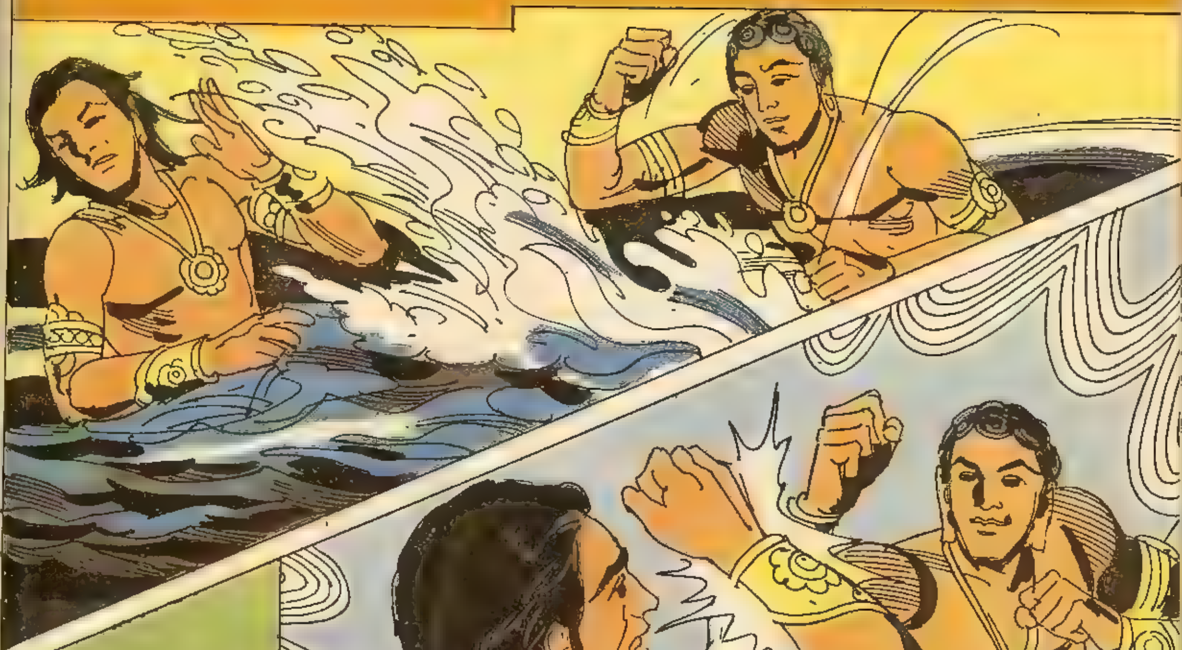
THEN STARTED THE SIGHT-BATTLE. BOTH STARED AT EACH OTHER, LOOKING HARD INTO EACH OTHER'S EYES. IN THE END BHARAT'S EYES DAMPENED AND HIS LASHES DROPPED, HIS NECK ALSO STARTED ACHING. BAHUBALI WAS TALLER, THEREFORE HE KEPT ON STARING WITHOUT A BLINK AND WON.



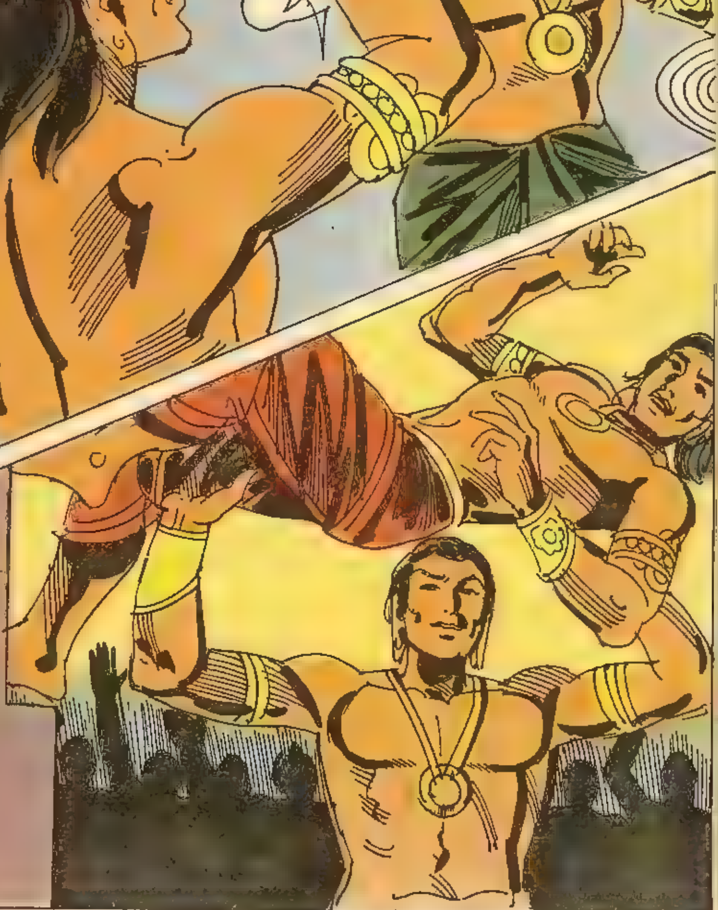




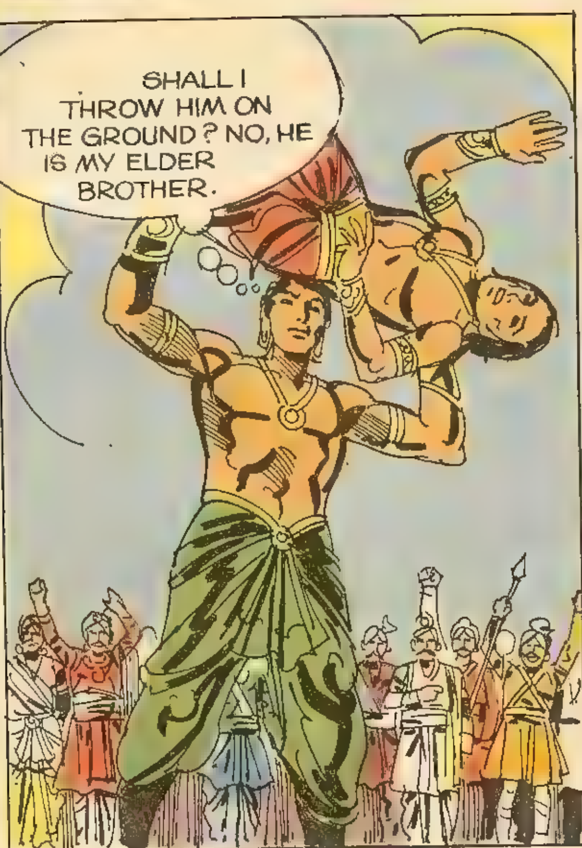
THEN BAHUBALI STARTED SHOWERING BLOWS ON THE WATER. THE WATER WHICH HE SPLASHED WOULD ENTER BHARAT'S MOUTH, EYES, NOSE AND EARS; WHEREAS THE WATER WHICH BHARAT THREW NEVER REACHED BAHUBALI'S MOUTH BUT FELL DOWN IN THE END, BHARAT TURNED HIS FACE AWAY. BAHUBALI WON THE WATER-BATTLE TOO.



SEEING THIS THE PEOPLE ON BHARAT'S SIDE REMARKED : "OH, IN THE WRESTLING MATCH THE GAME WILL REST IN BHARAT'S HAND." THE FOLLOWERS OF BAHUBALI REPLIED : "ONE WHO DREAMS OF BECOMING A SOVEREIGN KING ON THE STRENGTH OF HIS ARMY WILL REALISE IN THE WRESTLING MATCH WHAT IT IS TO ENCOUNTER A GREAT FIGHTER!"



THE WRESTLING MATCH STARTED. BOTH ENTERED THE WRESTLING ARENA. THEIR HANDS MET IN FIERCE GRIPS. THEY CLAPPED THEIR THIGHS, CLENCHED THEIR FISTS AND SHOWERED BLOWS ON EACH OTHER. ENGAGED IN THE FIGHT, THEY CHANGED POSITIONS. THEN BAHUBALI CHANGED HIS POSITION AND LIFTED UP BHARAT WITH BOTH HANDS.

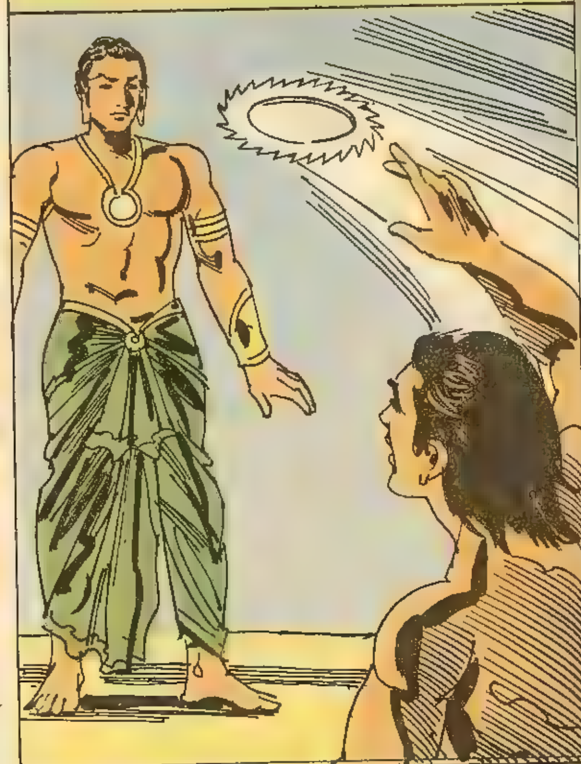


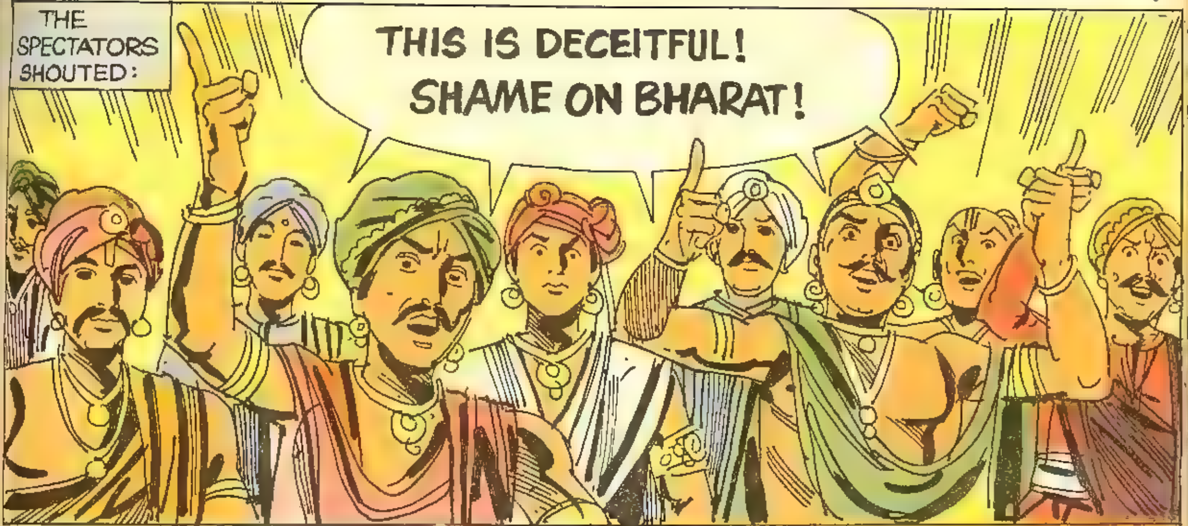


THEN, BAHUBALI BROUGHT HIM SLOWLY TO THE GROUND.



AS SOON AS BHARAT CAME TO THE GROUND, HIS EYES REDDENED. DECEITFULLY HE THREW HIS CHAKRA ON BAHUBALI.




THE SPECTATORS SHOUTED:
THIS IS DECEITFUL! SHAME ON BHARAT!


BUT WHAT IS THIS! THE CHAKRA WENT ROUND BAHUBALI, THEN STOPPED IN HIS HANDS. BAHUBALI MERELY SMILED.


THEN TURNING TO BHARAT, HE SAID IN A HARSH TONE :
BHARAT, YOU FORGET THAT THIS CHAKRA CANNOT HARM MY MOUNTAIN-LIKE BODY.
IN YOUR ANGER, YOU ALSO FORGOT THAT THIS CHAKRA IS NOT EFFECTIVE ON BROTHERS.
YOU WISH TO BECOME A SOVEREIGN KING BY DESTROYING YOUR BROTHERS.
BY DECEIVING ME, YOU HAVE TARNISHED OUR FATHER'S NAME.

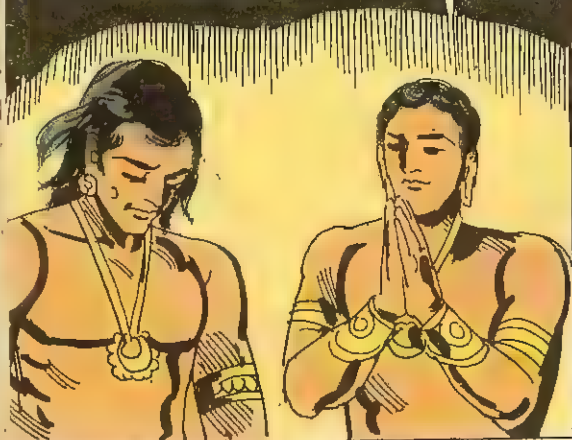
BAHUBALI CALMED AND THOUGHT.



IN BETWEEN THE SKY REVERBERATED:

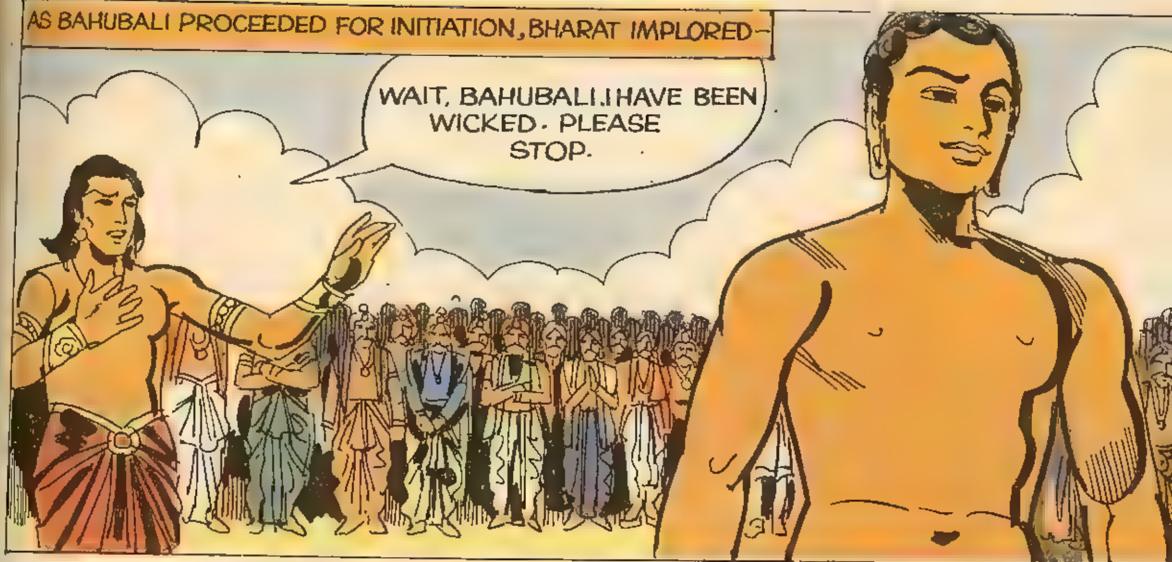


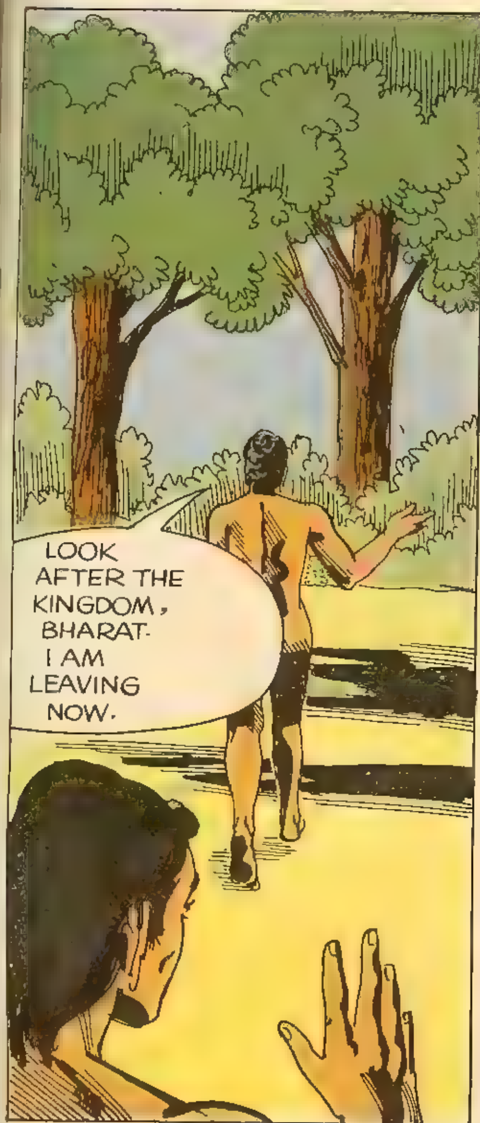
BAHUBALI THEN TOLD BHARAT:

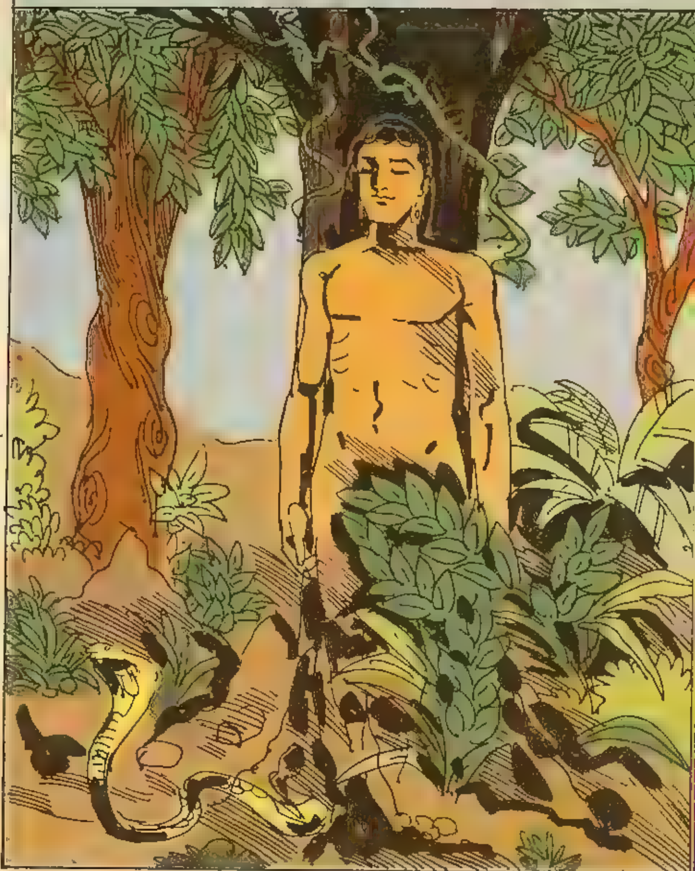


BAHUBALI CAST ASIDE HIS ROYAL ROBES AND JEWELS.




AS BAHUBALI PROCEEDED FOR INITIATION, BHARAT IMPLORED—
WAIT, BAHUBALI. I HAVE BEEN WICKED. PLEASE STOP.


LOOK AFTER THE KINGDOM, BHARAT. I AM LEAVING NOW.


AND HE BECAME A MUNI. NOW THERE WERE NEITHER CLOTHES ON BAHUBALI'S BODY NOR THE JOYS OF THE PALACE. HIS BODY BECAME EMACIATED, HE STOOD ON BOTH LEGS PERFORMING PENANCE. CREEPERS WOUND ROUND HIS ARMS AND LEGS, SERPANTS MADE MOUNTS OF EARTH. BUT HE DID NOT ATTAIN PERFECT KNOWLEDGE.

WHEN BHARAT HEARD THIS, HE APPROACHED HIS FATHER, RISHABHADEVA AND ASKED :

FATHER, WHY HAS BAHUBALI NOT ATTAINED OMNISCIENCE?

SOMETHING STILL DISTURBS HIM.

WHAT IS THAT ?

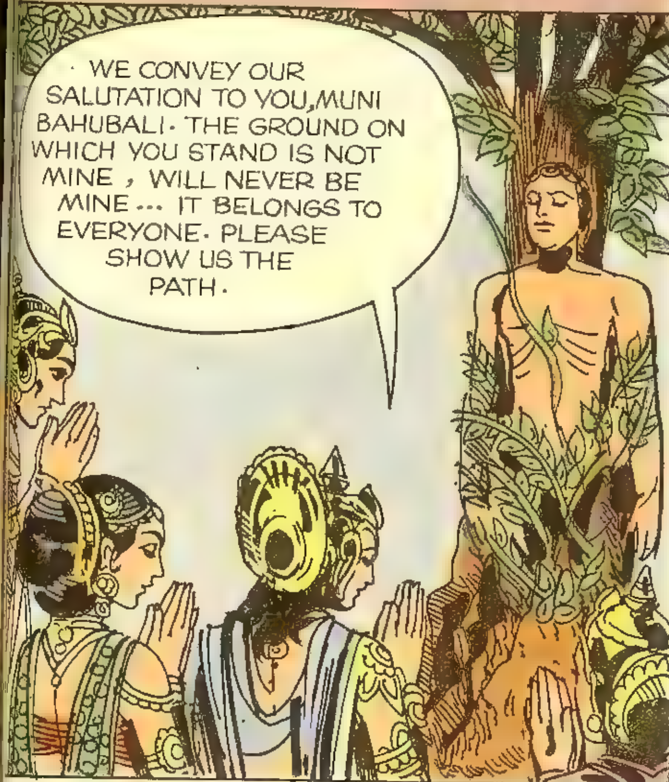
HE IS NOT FREE FROM THE THOUGHT THAT HE IS STANDING ON YOUR DOMAIN.

HOW CAN THIS BE WIPED, OH VENERATED ONE ?

RISHABHADEVA EXPLAINED :

BHARAT, GO WITH YOUR FAMILY. OFFER HIM RESPECT.

AS YOU WISH, LORD ADINATHA.


BHARAT WENT TO BAHUBALI WITH HIS FAMILY AND SAID :
WE CONVEY OUR SALUTATION TO YOU, MUNI BAHUBALI. THE GROUND ON WHICH YOU STAND IS NOT MINE , WILL NEVER BE MINE ... IT BELONGS TO EVERYONE. PLEASE SHOW US THE PATH.


ON HEARING THIS, THE PIQUE IN BAHUBALI'S MIND DISAPPEARED. HE ATTAINED OMNISCIENCE AND ACHIEVED LIBERATION.


TO COMMEMORATE THE MEMORY OF BAHUBALI, BHARAT INSTALLED HIS LIFE-SIZE STATUE IN PODANPUR.


TIME PASSED BY. CREEPERS AND SNAKES MADE THEIR HOMES NEARBY AND HIS STATUE WAS SCARCELY VISIBLE.

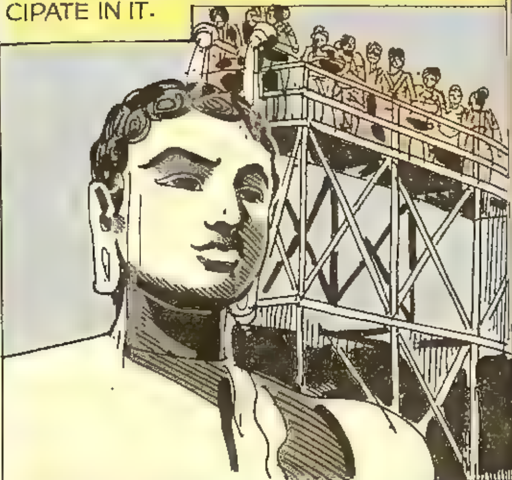
IN SOUTH INDIA, THERE WAS A GENERAL CALLED CHAMUNDARAYA OF KING RACHMAL. ONCE HIS MOTHER EXPRESSED A DESIRE.

SON, I WISH TO SEE BAHUBALI'S STATUE.

IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO SEE THE STATUE OF BAHUBALI IN PODANPUR. I SHALL ERECT AN IDOL OF BAHUBALI HERE ON THE INDRA GIRI.

ON THE BIDDING OF CHAMUNDARAYA, THE ARTISANS STARTED HEWING A HUGE STATUE OF BAHUBALI, IN SHRAVANABELGOLA NEAR MYSORE, IN THE YEAR 983. EVEN TODAY IT STANDS AS IT WAS AND THE FAINT SMILE ON ITS LIPS IS A REPROACH, AS IT WERE, ON THE WARS WAGED BY KINGS AND EMPERORS.

EVERY 12 YEARS, THE MAHAMASTAKABHISHEKA IS HELD HERE. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILIES OF MYSORE AS WELL AS THE COMMON PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY PARTICIPATE IN IT.



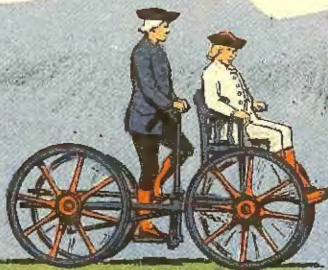
EMPIRES ARE BUILT AND DESTROYED BUT BAHUBALI'S SPIRITUAL EMPIRE LASTS TO THIS DAY. THAT IS WHY EVEN TODAY HUNDREDS OF PILGRIMS AND TOURISTS FLOCK DAILY TO SEE THIS STATUE.

LORD BHARAT HAD A SON BY THE NAME OF MARICHI, WHO HAD STARTED HIS INDEPENDENT ORDER OF MONKS.

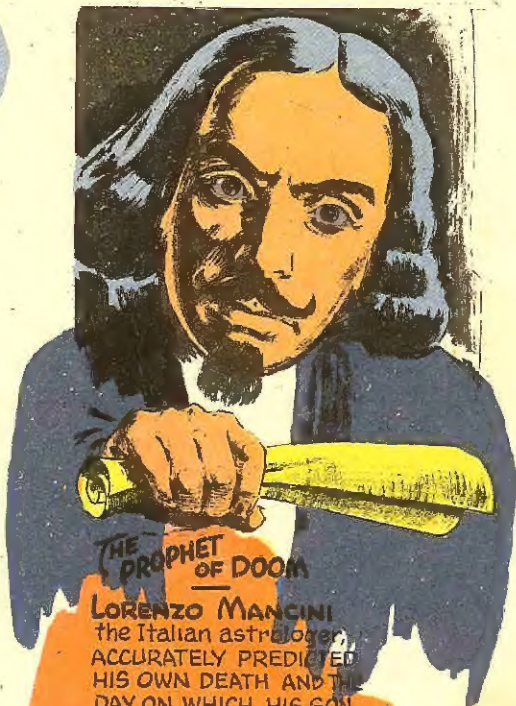
THROUGH A CYCLE OF RE-BIRTHS, HIS SOUL TOOK BIRTH IN THE FORM OF LORD MAHAVIRA.

THE 2500 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NIRVANA OF LORD MAHAVIRA WAS CELEBRATED WITH GREAT ECLAT THROUGHOUT INDIA.

Ripley's Believe It or Not!



A FOUR-WHEELER PEDALLED BY A FOOTMAN, WAS DEMONSTRATED IN PARIS, FRANCE, IN 1779 - *61 YEARS BEFORE THE INVENTION OF THE BICYCLE*



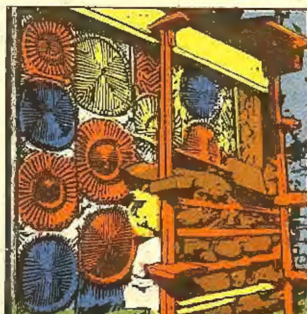
THE PROPHET OF DOOM

LORENZO MANCINI the Italian astrologer ACCURATELY PREDICTED HIS OWN DEATH AND THE DAY ON WHICH HIS SON PAOLO WOULD DIE IN 1652 -- *AND PROPHESIED HIS WIFE WOULD DIE IN THE YEAR 1656* -

HIS WIDOW, SISTER OF CARDINAL MAZARIN, DIED SUDDENLY ON DEC. 29, 1656



A FARM GIRL in Coruña, Spain, OFTEN WALKS 20 MILES TO MARKET *BALANCING 22 CHICKENS ON HER HEAD*



DOORS AND WINDOWS in Kafiristan, Asia, ARE CONSTRUCTED IN A LATTICE PATTERN - *COPIED FROM THE SUNGLASSES WITH WOODEN LATTICEWORK WORN BY NATIVES*

Ripley's Believe It or Not!



THE GREATEST FINGER PAINTER
KORNELIS KETEL (1548-1602)
PAINTED SOME OF HIS GREATEST MASTERPIECES WITHOUT THE USE OF A BRUSH - *USING ONLY HIS FINGERS OR TOES*



THE VERTICAL FISH
A TYPE OF FISH THAT SWIMS ALMOST UPRIGHT AT A DEPTH OF **2,500** FEET, WAS SIGHTED BY EXPLORER CHARLES BEEBE FROM HIS BATHYSPHERE - *YET THIS KIND OF FISH HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN AGAIN*



THE LAZY BLOSSOMS
AS BLOOMS OF THE DESERT CHRISTMAS CACTUS ARE CALLED - *FOLD THEIR PETALS EVERY NIGHT AND DO NOT OPEN THEM TILL 3 P.M. THE NEXT DAY*

THE KAHAWAI FISH
WHEN USED IN NEW ZEALAND AS BAIT TO CATCH SWORDFISH *HAS A HOOK SEWN TO ITS BODY*



THE WANDERING CACTUS
Tradescantia navicularis
GETS ITS NAME FROM THE FACT THAT ITS STEMS PUT OUT ROOTS WHICH PENETRATE THE SOIL *- AND CREATE NEW PLANTS SO THAT THE CACTUS SEEMS TO BE CONSTANTLY ON THE MOVE*



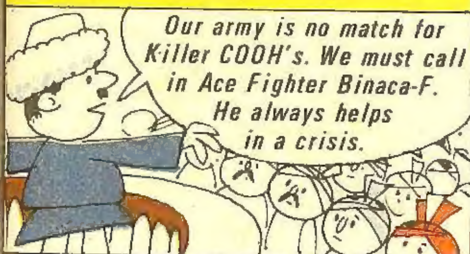
BILLY PHILLIPS of Nashville, Tenn.,
A LAD OF 16 WHO WAS DISPATCHED BY GEN. ANDREW JACKSON TO WARN AMERICANS THAT THE WAR OF 1812 HAD BEGUN, RODE 860 MILES ON HORSEBACK IN 9 DAYS
- AVERAGING 95 MILES A DAY FOR 9 CONSECUTIVE DAYS

The Diwali War

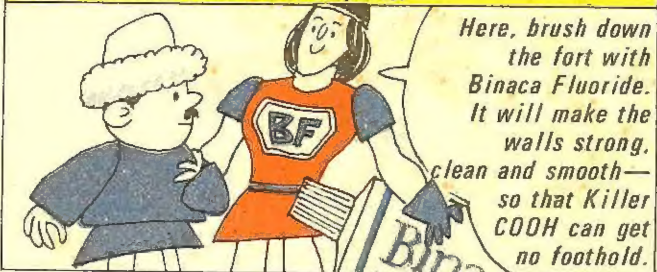
The independent state of Dentown, July X05III. Court Astrologer Wide-Eye predicts a forthcoming attack on Fort White Teeth by Demon Acid, Killer COOH.*



Later that day, the army chief, addresses the National Assembly.

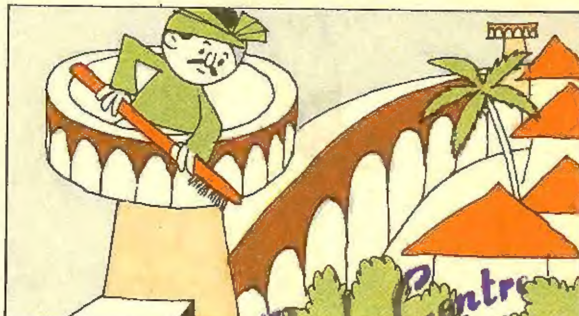


Binaca-F agrees to help. And comes armed with his secret weapon: Binaca Fluoride Toothpaste.

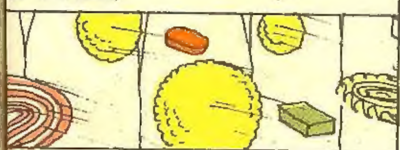


The citizens of Dentown give full support to Binaca-F and follow his instructions faithfully.



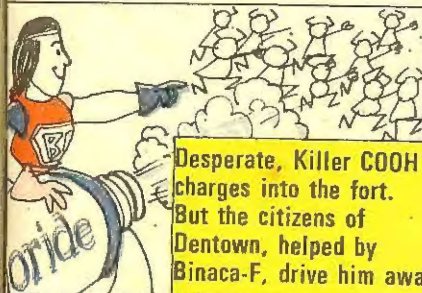


s predicted, early on Diwali Day, illerHOOH strikes. Cannon-ball adoos, Barfi Bombs, Peda Pellets—ll deadly weapons—come hurtling nto the fort.





But to the amazement of both armies, the fort stands invincible. Binaca Fluoride Toothpaste has strengthened it against attack.



Desperate, Killer COOH charges into the fort. But the citizens of Dentown, helped by Binaca-F, drive him away.

That night there is great rejoicing at Dentown.





*Formula for carboxyl acid group, which attacks tooth enamel and causes painful cavities

Brush in extra toughness.
Arrest tooth decay with Binaca Fluoride.

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